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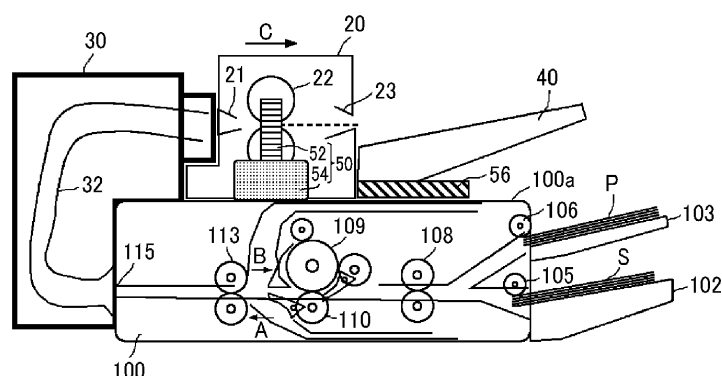
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(54) **SHEET SEPARATION DEVICE AND LAMINATING SYSTEM**

(57) A sheet separation device (100) for separating two sheets of a two-ply sheet, in which the two sheets are overlapped and a part of the two sheets are joined, and inserting at least one sheet medium between the two sheets includes an upper surface (100a), an ejection tray (40), and a conveyor (30). A lamination fixing device (20) that laminates the two-ply sheet including the at least one sheet medium inserted between the two sheets is to be

mounted on the upper surface (100a). The ejection tray (40) is disposed on the upper surface. The two-ply sheet laminated and ejected from an ejection port of the lamination fixing device is to be stacked on the ejection tray (40). The conveyor (30) is coupled to the lamination fixing device to convey the two-ply sheet including the at least one sheet medium from the sheet separation device to the lamination fixing device.

FIG. 1





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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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A,D	JP 2011 068115 A (PRIMAX ELECTRONICS LTD) 7 April 2011 (2011-04-07) * the whole document * -----	1-4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			B32B
-The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 19 June 2024	Examiner Tischler, Christian
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	



Application Number

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing claims for which payment was due.

☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):

☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those claims for which no payment was due.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

☐ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.

☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.

☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:

☒ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

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☐ The present supplementary European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims (Rule 164 (1) EPC).



LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION SHEET B

Application Number

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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. claims: 1-4

A sheet separation device (100) for separating two sheets of a two-ply sheet, in which the two sheets are overlapped and a part of the two sheets are joined, and inserting at least one sheet medium between the two sheets, the sheet separation device comprising: an upper surface (100a) on which a lamination fixing device (20) that laminates the two-ply sheet including the at least one sheet medium inserted between the two sheets is to be mounted; an ejection tray (40) disposed on the upper surface, on which the two-ply sheet laminated by the lamination fixing device and ejected from an ejection port of the lamination fixing device is to be stacked; and a conveyor (30) coupled to the lamination fixing device to convey the two-ply sheet including the at least one sheet medium inserted between the two sheets from the sheet separation device to the lamination fixing device.

2. claims: 5-14

A laminating system (200), comprising: a sheet separation device (100) to separate a two-ply sheet to form the two-ply sheet having an inner sheet inserted therein, the sheet separation device having an upper surface on which a lamination fixing device is to be installed, the sheet separation device including a plurality of first positioners (160) to restrict a position of the lamination fixing device in a direction orthogonal to a conveyance direction of the two-ply sheet, each one of the first positioners being movable in the direction orthogonal to the conveyance direction of the two-ply sheet.

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 24 15 3102

5 This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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19-06-2024

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